# Healthy schools create an

environment where students can become fit, healthy, and ready to learn! These schools help students achieve their full academic potential and support them in developing lifelong healthy behaviors. A healthy school provides clear and consistent health messages, accurate health information, and ample opportunity for students to put this knowledge into practice. A healthy school recognizes that what happens in the classroom, in the gymnasium, in the cafeteria, at school events, at home, and in the community are interrelated and can reinforce healthy behaviors. Across the state of Wisconsin, families, students, teachers, school administrators, and community members are joining forces to promote healthy schools to improve health and academic outcomes.

For more information on the Governor's School Health Award, go to **www.schoolhealthaward. wi.gov** or if you have questions, send them to **schoolhealthaward@dpi.wi.gov** 



## Does your school...

- promote healthy nutritional choices?
- get students active?
- have policies in place to address staff and student wellness?
- have a committee that oversees wellness efforts in your school?
- promote being alcohol-, tobacco-, and drugfree?
- actively involve parents and community partners?
- promote staff wellness?

If you answered YES to these questions, your school may be in line for one of the Governor's School Health Awards. For more information, go to www.schoolhealthaward.wi.gov.



Governor's Office
Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health
Department of Public Instruction
Department of Health Services













**Governor Jim Doyle** 

State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster

Governor Doyle and State Superintendent Burmaster have initiated the Governor's School Health Award to recognize and celebrate schools that support and promote healthy eating; physical activity; alcohol-, tobacco-, and drug-free lifestyles; parental and community involvement; and staff wellness.

The goal of this award is to motivate and empower all Wisconsin schools to develop the policies, programs, and infrastructure needed to create and maintain a healthy school environment.

The award program requires a school to assess its current policies, practices, and programs to determine if they meet best practice criteria in the areas of 1) school health program management; 2) nutrition; 3) physical activity; 4) alcohol, tobacco-, and drug-free lifestyles; 5) parent and school partnerships; and 6) staff wellness.



## How the School Health Award Program Works

The school health award application consists of six sections; each section focuses on a topic area related to *School Health*. These sections include:

- Section 1: School Policies and Management
- Section 2: Physical Education/Physical Activity
- Section 3: Healthy Eating and Nutrition Education
- Section 4: Alcohol-, Tobacco-, and Drug-Free Lifestyles
- Section 5: Parent and School Partnerships
- Section 6: Staff Wellness

The award criteria questions in each section ask the school to evaluate its recent activities and accomplishments. A school accumulates points when they meet pre-defined criteria in each of the six sections. The total number of points accumulated determines what award level a school has achieved (i.e., bronze, silver, gold).

#### Awards

Schools receiving an award will be recognized by Wisconsin's Governor and State Superintendent and may be eligible for a financial award.

**Bronze:** Wall plaque with a commendation

from the Governor

**Silver:** Wall banner suitable to hang outdoors

**Gold:** Gold star plaque suitable for mounting or

embedding in a sidewalk

## **Important Dates**

\*Award Application Due: March 13, 2009

Award Presentations: May 2009



### **Important Steps**

**1st**–Go online to

www.schoolhealthaward.wi.gov for more information.

**2nd**—Print off a copy of the school application and review the questions.

**3rd**—Obtain the principal's approval to apply and pre-register your school.

**4th**—Assemble a team to complete the award application.

**5th**—Submit your online application and mail in the required appendices to DPI.

**6th**—Print the action plan worksheets on the award website and develop a plan to strengthen your school health program.

Thirty-five schools have received an award recognizing their achievements supporting school health programs. To learn more about these schools and their successes, go to

www.school health award.wi.gov.

\*All schools applying for an award will need to pre-register online at www.schoolbealthaward.wi.gov.